

Listing of Claims in the Application

This Listing of Claims replaces, without prejudice, all previous versions and listing of claims in this Application.

1. (Currently amended) A master plate for fabricating a stamper plate for production of an optical storage medium with information such as a CD or a DVD, the master plate comprising a substrate and a single photoresist layer provided thereon, while parts of the photoresist layer exposed to light of a predetermined frequency are soluble in a solvent for creating a hole pattern with recesses in the photoresist layer, characterized in that the solubility exhibits a gradient along the normal to the photoresist layer, the solubility on the side near the substrate being less soluble than the solubility on the opposite, upper side of the photoresist layer so that bottoms of the recesses obtain a flowing contour.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently amended) A master plate according to claim 1, characterized in that parts of the photoresist layer exposed to laser light having a wavelength of a frequency in the frequency band of 200-500 nm are soluble in the solvent.
4. (Previously presented) A master plate according to claim 3, characterized in that the solvent is an alkaline solvent.
5. (Currently amended) A method for fabricating a master plate for fabricating a stamper plate, wherein on a substrate a single photoresist layer is provided, wherein parts of the photoresist layer exposed to light of a predetermined frequency are soluble in a solvent for creating a hole pattern with recesses in the photoresist layer, characterized in that the photoresist layer is provided by providing a first material and a second material on the substrate, such that the solubility exhibits a gradient along the normal to the photoresist layer, the solubility on the side near the substrate being less than the solubility on the opposite, upper side of the photoresist layer, so that bottoms of the recesses obtain a flowing contour.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 4 6, characterized in that the method further comprises the following steps:

providing directly on the substrate an adhesive such as n-(2-amino-ethyl)-3-aminopropyl-trimethoxysilane, hexamethyldisilazane (HMDS) and/or trimethylsilyldiethylamine (TMSDEA);

providing ~~the~~ a photoresist layer on the adhesive applied;

allowing formation, through a crosslinking reaction between the adhesive and the photoresist layer provided directly thereon, ~~of the first subphotoresist layer and, situated thereon, the second subphotoresist layer.~~

8. (Original) A method according to claim 7, characterized in that the adhesive, directly upon application, is rinsed with a rinsing agent such as water for a relatively short period of time.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 8, characterized in that the relatively short rinsing period with water takes 5 seconds at a maximum.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (currently amended) A method according to claim 5 6, characterized in that the subphotoresist layers are exposed according to a predetermined pattern, after which the thus exposed parts are dissolved in the solvent and are rinsed off, and after which the surface of the photoresist layer of the master plate is provided with a relatively thin metal layer.

13. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 5, characterized in that the method further comprises the step of fabricating a stamper plate by a galvanic process as a negative copy of the master plate.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13, characterized in that the method further comprises the step of fabricating an optical storage medium by an injection molding process with the stamper plate.